

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. New claims 9-12 have been added in this reply.

The pending claims have been either amended or added in view of the Examiner's Response to Arguments in page 4 of the Office Action dated March 29, 2005.


Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi (Reg. No. 40,417) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 29, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By  (reg. # 40,417)
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